

Washington, DC – U.S. Congressman Mike Pence made the following statement regarding "America Speaking Out," a new program unveiled today that will provide an online forum for policy discussion and idea generation.

"Backroom dealmaking and closed door meetings have defined this session of Congress and created a growing disconnect between the agenda pushed in Washington and the priorities of American families. Concerned citizens across the country long for transparency and representatives who will listen directly to their constituents.

"America Speaking Out is part of a process of engaging these American citizens who are

looking to have their voices heard. Through innovative technology, the American people can offer suggestions directly to Congress or weigh in on the suggestions of others. I urge Hoosiers to participate in this cutting-edge democracy and help construct a new governing agenda that includes ideas directly from the American people."

BACKGROUND:

<u>AmericaSpeakingOut.com</u> is an innovative platform for citizens to present solutions to the tough challenges facing our nation. This new tool utilizes social media technologies to engage the American people, allowing them to lend their voice in designing a new governing agenda for Congress.

"America Speaking Out" will help Members of Congress listen to ideas and priorities from all Americans, regardless of party affiliation. The program will provide an online forum for generating ideas, leading to the creation of an agenda based on conservative principles to get America back on track. The program will also include town hall meetings specifically designed to gather input on what a new governing agenda should contain.